

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

B. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.
Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$6.00
Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$7.00
Three Months, \$2.00
Six Months, \$3.50
Sunday Bee, One Year, \$2.00
Saturday Bee, One Year, \$2.00
Weekly Bee, One Year, \$2.00

OFFICES.
Omaha: The Bee Building,
South Omaha: 19 Pearl Street,
Fifth and N streets.
Chicago: Stock Exchange Building,
New York: Temple Court,
Washington: 29 Fourteenth Street.

CORRESPONDENCE.
Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: Editorial Department, The Omaha Bee.
BUSINESS LETTERS.
Business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha.

REMITTANCES.
Payable by draft, express or postal order.
Remit to The Bee Publishing Company.
Only 2-cent stamps accepted in payment of mail accounts. Personal checks except on Omaha or eastern exchange, not accepted.
THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: I, George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, say that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee, during the month of April, 1899, was as follows:

1.....24,550	16.....24,510
2.....25,010	17.....24,710
3.....24,805	18.....24,470
4.....24,810	19.....24,530
5.....24,790	20.....24,420
6.....24,780	21.....24,410
7.....24,640	22.....24,470
8.....24,780	23.....25,070
9.....24,750	24.....25,340
10.....25,000	25.....24,492
11.....24,950	26.....24,230
12.....24,950	27.....24,200
13.....24,920	28.....25,900
14.....24,600	29.....24,450
15.....24,700	30.....24,635
Total.....746,902	
Less untold and returned copies.....9,643	
Net total sales.....737,259	
Net daily average.....24,574	

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of May, 1899.
H. L. PLUMB,
Notary Public.

The warm Nebraska is coming from a warm climate, but the boys will find their reception at home even warmer.

The yellow journals are still rolling embalmers under their tongues. They are loath to give up such a delightful morsel.

Bishop Potter's ultimatum is practically a repetition of a saying made famous in another connection that there is nothing to arbitrate.

Syria may be a free and independent state, as the New York Syrian Junta proclaims, but the inhabitants of Syria have yet to be apprised of the fact.

Remember that Nebraska lands and Omaha real estate form the foundation of almost all the great fortunes that have been accumulated in this state.

The two national organizations of musicians have voted to consolidate. If harmony should be lacking among musicians, where would we look for it?

The local weather offices are to be moved into new quarters equipped with improved apparatus, but the weather being dealt out to Omaha people cannot be improved on.

The popocrats will do well not to talk about playing the volunteers for partisanship. The construction of the Third Nebraska regiment for the benefit of a made-in-advance colonel should operate as an estoppel.

A literary trust has been formed to control the future literary productions of Kipling. But Kipling stock is already inflated to such an extent that any further effort in that direction may produce a collapse.

Before the city council goes into the business of fertilizing back taxes it would be well to look ahead and see where such a policy would end. Every time taxes are remitted a premium is placed on tax delinquency.

State Treasurer Meserve says it is nobody's business but his own where he keeps the half million dollars of school funds in his custody. It will be remembered that that was the same answer given by late Treasurer Bartley to a similar question. Great is reform!

The Panamerican exposition people at Buffalo have finally settled on a site for their exhibit, but that is no sign that their troubles are over. It took two tries to get the Transmississippi Exposition located on a spot that would pay back 87 1/2 per cent on the stock subscriptions.

The failure of the council to provide money for the publication of the annual reports of the city officials is no doubt a great hardship. If no other way can be improvised for embalmers their achievements in handsomely bound form we suggest that the officials raise the money by assessments on their own salaries.

Omaha last year established no small reputation as a convention city and by its cordial entertainment and hospitable treatment secured the good will of all the great national gatherings that met here. There is no good reason why Omaha should not be in the field for annual conventions of all the great organizations and entertain a half dozen or more of them every year. These conventions can be secured if Omaha will only go after them.

The Chinese government has been officially notified of the fact that England and Russia have divided up the coveted parts of that empire. The Russian minister has followed up the notification by the announcement that his government proposed to build a railroad from the Transsiberian line in Manchuria to Peking. The Chinese government does not recognize the Anglo-Russian agreement, but a little pressure will enable it to see the benevolent purposes of its big northern neighbor.

TO FORCE THE FIGHTING.

The report that President McKinley has instructed General Otis to force the fighting appears improbable for the reason that it was hardly necessary in view of the fact that this is what Otis is preparing to do. The American forces have been taking a much needed rest after continuous marching and fighting, but the dispatches state that fresh troops are being sent to the front as rapidly as possible and an early and vigorous renewal of the campaign is to be expected at any time. The probability is that a plan of campaign is being arranged the results of which it is hoped by General Otis will be decisive. He will, it is to be presumed, be left entirely free to prosecute further movements as his knowledge of the situation shall dictate.

At all events, it is manifestly the proper thing, from a military point of view, to force the fighting. Delay enables the enemy to recuperate, while following them up and striking blow upon blow as rapidly as possible weakens and demoralizes them. Forcing the fighting, therefore, is a sound military proposition and General Otis has shown that he so well understands this as not to need any direction.

OUR VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS.

The government appears to be doing everything possible to bring the volunteer soldiers home from the Philippines and the promise now is that within a couple of months the last of them will have left the islands. There is naturally some impatience on the part of relatives of the volunteers at the delay, but the soldiers, it appears, do not share this feeling, being on the contrary content to wait until the government can relieve them. There has been a good deal said about their great anxiety to return to the United States and doubtless most of them will welcome the opportunity, but as intelligent and patriotic men they understand that the government cannot withdraw them from the service at once and they are willing to wait and faithfully perform their duty until they can be relieved without jeopardizing what has been accomplished.

It is impossible to speak in too strong terms of the valor, the fortitude and the loyal devotion of the volunteer soldiers and it is an injustice to them to assert, as has been done, that they are generally disaffected. A few such, perhaps, there are, but the great majority, there can be no doubt, have no such feeling. They are willing to fight so long as they are capable of fighting. As the correspondent of the New York Evening Post says in his last letter from the Philippines, "all complaints and criticisms are hushed when there is a chance to get at the enemy and the greatest difficulty the army has is to keep men away from the front who do not belong there." The courage and fortitude of our volunteers in the Philippines have never been excelled and such men do not become disaffected.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH GERMANY.

A Berlin dispatch states that negotiations for a new commercial treaty between Germany and the United States are proceeding, but what progress has been made is not stated. There appears to be an earnest desire on the part of the German government to effect closer trade relations with this country, but opposed to this is the influential and aggressive agrarian element, the power of which has just been shown in connection with the proposed meat inspection law. The bill submitted to the Reichstag by the government, which was acceptable to the American ambassador, has been reported back by the committee to which it was referred so altered as to be distinctly hostile to American interests. It is stated that the measure framed by the committee, undoubtedly in response to agrarian demands, provides for such examination and inspection of American meats as could not be enforced without utterly destroying American trade with Germany.

It is believed that the imperial cabinet will refuse to sanction the committee's bill and it is thought to be very probable that the government will be able to command the requisite majority to pass the measure it introduced, so that it is said there is no ground for apprehension that the adverse action of the committee on the meat inspection bill will prejudice the negotiations for a treaty of commerce. It is understood to be the plan of the government not to at present push its bill, but to allow time for the new outbreak of agrarian sentiment to pass over. It is by no means assured, however, that this latest manifestation of agrarian sentiment will subside. It is quite as likely, on the contrary, to increase. The debate in the Reichstag on the meat inspection bill showed that the agrarians had lost none of their aggressive and their hostility to American meats was especially pronounced. How great their influence is can be seen in the measure reported back from the committee and also in the fact that the government will not now push its bill, although claiming not to have any doubt of its ability to pass it.

Ambassador White has expressed confidence that the negotiations for a treaty of commerce will be successful, but the situation at present does not appear to warrant such confidence. Although there have been loud complaints from various elements showing that the interests of the great body of consumers had been sacrificed to the interests of the land owners, the government has shown itself indisposed to frantically antagonize the demands of the latter and there is little reason to think that it will change its policy in this respect, at least until there is some retaliatory action on the part of the United States such as has been proposed—a possibility which the agrarians profess not to fear. The problem that confronts the German government is certainly a perplexing one. It naturally hesitates, on the one hand, to utterly disregard the demands of the land owners, who although a minority of the people are yet powerful in wealth and influence. On the other hand it has to consider the danger of a commercial war as a conse-

quence of complying with the agrarian demands. Its decision on a policy is a matter of considerable concern to this country.

SHIELDS' SELF-ARRAIGNMENT.

When County Attorney Shields rushed into the courts with a \$25,000 damage claim because of the Bee had exercised its privilege to call attention to his flagrant partiality to certain law-breakers sensible people were forced to the conclusion that he was making a fool of himself. Now that he has wrathfully rushed into print with a confession and apology interlarded with choice billingsgate they know that he has lost his senses as well as his self-respect.

Calling editors liars and hyenas may serve as a vindication among the rowdies and blackies who enjoy his friendship and protection, but it does not clear up the record he has made as a public prosecutor. When a public officer sworn to discharge his duties impartially without fear or favor admits over his own name that he is knowingly and willfully retaining as his chief deputy a man who declined to testify against parties charged with gambling on the ground that he might incriminate himself, because his dismissal might gratify The Bee, he shows how completely he has lost all sense of official duty. On the same theory, if The Bee should furnish indisputable proof that one of its deputies was in collusion with thieves, the irascible county attorney would bristle up and defy all demands for his removal for fear he might be accused of being run by The Bee.

The admission of Mr. Shields in his open letter that although he had positive evidence of wholesale lawbreaking he had concluded to condone the offenses and pigeonhole the complaints written by himself, goes further to show his utter disregard of his official oath than anything The Bee has said up to date. The public prosecutor is not the man to suspend the enforcement of the criminal code at pleasure. Nor does it lie in his discretion to prosecute political opponents and shield political friends. On the contrary the law expressly makes it a misdemeanor for him to exhibit partiality or vindictiveness in the exercise of his office powers. Instead of vindicting himself from the damaging evidence of his connection with the hold-up gang brought out in the libel suit depositions, Mr. Shields' letter has fully justified all that has been said about his incapacity and dereliction of duty as a public officer.

According to Mr. Shields people shudder every time they shake hands with the editor of The Bee. That is doubtless true for people like Mr. Shields, who dread the searchlight of publicity and know that neither money, influence nor favor can divert The Bee from the unflinching discharge of the duty every honest and unpurchasable newspaper owes the public to expose and denounce the betrayal of trusts by friend or foe.

The country has cause for congratulations in that labor troubles this spring have been comparatively few. Workers in many lines of industry have been granted increases without strikes and in numerous instances without the asking. While strikes can never be entirely eliminated as long as there are employers and employees, few years in the history of the United States have produced less of them than the opening months of 1899. Where there have been strikes special features challenge attention. In the first place, there has been no general stoppage of work in any line of industry, the differences in every case being local, and have in no instance even threatened general trade paralysis. Another notable feature is the absence, with few exceptions, of violent outbreaks which in the past have been the almost universal accompaniment of labor troubles. The spirit of conciliation and reason predominates and misunderstandings have been settled or are in process of settlement by arbitration or mediation. Prosperous times like the present are more favorable for the inauguration of arbitration methods and 1899 has made a commendable start.

Considerable surprise is expressed in European papers at the manner in which the American president strolls around practically unattended and unguarded by the ordinary, everyday guests at the Virginia health resort where he is visiting. Why should he do otherwise? The president comes from the body of the people and when his term of office expires will return to it again and become plain Mr. McKinley. Just as others have done before him. It is not necessary to set himself up on a pedestal for the populace to admire him from afar. The man, like his acts, will bear the closest scrutiny.

It is rumored that the Omaha clearing house is to absorb itself from all connection with the national clearing house association. If the Omaha bankers cannot rise above their petty differences sufficiently to restore the clearing house figures to their true basis they might as well pursue this course to protect Omaha against the injury worked by advertising this city as being on the down grade, when in fact business was never more prosperous. If the bankers withdraw from the national clearing house association the business men of Omaha may finally wake up to the situation and take the matter in hand.

County Attorney Shields says he will not prosecute the sixty-one protected gambling men against whom he has evidence because of the expense it would involve upon the bounty. If that is a valid excuse, why is he prosecuting the penny-ante poker players? And why is he prosecuting other gamblers who refused to stand in with the gang? Does not their prosecution entail expense on the county? Why prosecute this costly murder case if the object is simply to save the county money?

Whenever The Bee has exposed any public plunderer or derelict official the World-Herald as the political fence for public thieves of all parties has rushed to his defense with the explanation that The Bee is attacking a good man because Rosewater could not use him. It was so with Bolln and with Bartley, it

was so with Herdman and the other members of the gang of hold-ups and blackmailers who operated under the Herdman police commission. And now the same organ offers as a defense of County Attorney Shields' open alliance with the gamblers and blackmailers that he has incurred the enmity of The Bee because Rosewater cannot run him. In this case, as in all the others, not a single instance can be cited where Rosewater or anyone authorized to speak for The Bee has ever given an opportunity to refuse a single request.

Every reliable report from Germany goes to show that the relations between that country and the United States are most cordial, in spite of the denunciation of everything American in some of the papers over there. Like the condemnation of Germany on this side, these railings are simply the froth of a small effervescent element without influence upon public policy. Intense commercial rivalry, as a matter of course, produces international friction, and always will, but it is not of a nature which can cause any permanent estrangement between the two nations.

Every citizen of the north side and south side should be sleeping on his arms these days. Word may be expected hourly from Washington that captured Spanish cannon has been shipped to its destination, which will be the signal for drawing up forces in battle array. Intervention, arbitration and conciliation will be out of the question, as the fate of the cannon will be decided in no other way than by force of numbers. In the meanwhile the park board may as well consider itself in a state of siege.

As predicted when nominated Theodore Roosevelt has become governor of New York in fact as well as in name. The state has had governors with just as honest purposes as Roosevelt, but too many of them have either succumbed to the blandishments of political rings which exploit politics for personal gain or have been too weak to make more than a tentative fight against their supremacy. The present executive is pursuing his purposes with a persistence and a vigor which are accomplishing results.

The Merchants' and Manufacturers' association of Council Bluffs is taking up the question of advertising that city for the purpose of directing capital and population. In the meantime Omaha's Commercial club says it is powerless to stop the bad advertisement given Omaha by defective clearing house reports, which are designed to keep capital and population away from this city by misrepresenting business conditions.

While County Attorney Shields is so solicitous to save the county money why not devote a little attention to the over-weighted pay roll of the county attorney's office. No previous county attorney had so large a staff or a salary list within \$1,800 of what Shields' extravagant administration is costing.

Uncle Sam's Specialty.

Washington Star.
The fact that there is to be a new admiral at Manila should not encourage any lack of caution among the representatives of other nations, as this country makes a specialty of having the right man in the right place in an emergency.

Justified by Events.

San Francisco Bulletin.
Reports from the province of Puerto Principe are to the effect that the inhabitants are going to work and are contented and hopeful of the future. It is so in Santiago province. These facts are overwhelming proof that the Cuban treaty treated in the peace treaty was the correct one.

Fruits of Republican Policies.

Globe-Democrat.
In March, 1898, the month of Cleveland's inauguration, the exports of American manufactures amounted to \$14,559,221. In March of the present year the figures were \$36,625,723. Democrats will notice that a Republican administration is a great deal in getting hold of the markets of the world.

Collecting Old Bills.

Chicago Post.
Since the United States navy has demonstrated its efficient and capable action and hesitancy have developed in those who ordinarily have enjoyed playing tag with Uncle Sam. Rear Admiral Howison gave the salute of Morocco twenty-four hours in the morning to the American claims and after a hasty inspection, from a distance, of the guns of the Chicago, he decided that he did not need so much time.

Quite a Bit of Silver.

Boston Globe.
The latest government report shows that silver is still very much in evidence in the nation's currency. The number of silver dollars in the country on April 1, 1898, was 427,789,916. The number on April 1, 1899, was 476,193,158, an increase of nearly 50,000,000, while the silver certificates in circulation, which were about \$5,000,000, Silver usually goes right until some body gets up a scare for selfish ends.

We Are Americans.

Philadelphia Ledger.
Mr. Choate has struck out a new expression, which the time seemed to call for. "I am neither British nor foreign," said he to his British audience. "But simply an American." The phrase will bear examination. It exactly defines our relations with Great Britain in the present era of amity. We are in the same family, but not identified with them; of the same blood, but distinct in character. Above all, we are Americans.

Genuine Specimens.

New York Sun.
According to the Daily Telegraph of London there is some desire to have a representation of American soldiers at the Hyde park review of British and colonial volunteers to be held in July and the Seventh and Eighty-first regiments of New York are spoken of. How would Furman's Kansas men or the gallant Nebraskaans do? We should be satisfied to have them represent us in London in their fighting rig. If their work in Luzon should be finished by that time.

Too Much Wind and Water.
Portland Oregonian.
The great movement rapidly approaching proportions that will result in its ultimate overthrow. Watered stock as a basis foundation cannot, in the very nature of things, sustain a business of gigantic proportions and withal top-heavy to disintegrate. The percolating power of water is not a theory but a fact of disintegration. The trust through its influence, though bound together in bands of steel, iron and copper, will in due time topple and fall by its own weight.

WHEN DEWEY COMES HOME.

Chicago Times-Herald: By all means let Admiral Dewey land in San Francisco, and let New York make its reception. The culmination of a series of brilliant ceremonies.

Chicago Journal: The contemplated \$100-a-plate dinner to Admiral Dewey is not apt to fill that gentleman with any great satisfaction. He is a practical man, and to think that after having done the best he could he had to leave about \$98 worth of the enemy's provisions still afloat might well make him feel that he had been commanded to do the impossible.

Chicago Chronicle: But if he survive the ordeal his place in history is assured. It was well enough to have smashed Montejó and broken the power of Spain. It is the pinnacle of greatness to have been entertained by the richest men of the nation at a banquet costing \$100 a plate. Let the admiral face the banquet as bravely as he faced the Spanish guns at Cavite.

Philadelphia Record: It is said by the close friends of Admiral Dewey that he is in greater dread of the reception in store for him when he shall set foot upon his native land than he was of his reception at Manila when he visited that port in the early morning of May 1, 1898, without asking permission of the commanders of the Spanish fleet and fleet. The modesty of the hero may disappoint the dinner givers and the spellbinders, but his loving and appreciative countrymen will understand and love him and respect him all the more.

St. Paul Pioneer Press: The earnest effort to induce Admiral Dewey to return home by way of San Francisco in order to give the inland towns an opportunity to show him that the think of him is probably energy wasted. Even if there were not other good and sufficient reasons why he should take the Suez route homeward, it is likely, to judge by what we know of the man, that the easier and numerous the invitations he may receive the more distinguished he will be to yield. A modesty as rare as it is becoming would make such an ovation as is proposed in the transcontinental tour scheme exceedingly disagreeable to him.

Milwaukee Sentinel: If Admiral Dewey comes home by way of San Francisco he will have just as hard a time. There will not be in any one place a crowd of New York proportions, but the trip across the continent will be a long series of dinners, testimonials and compulsory speeches. Chicago will give him a dinner costing \$125 a plate, and will insist upon his eating the plate. The best thing the admiral can do is to strike the continent north of the United States line, proceed by rail through Canada to a point north of Vermont, and have himself conveyed by balloon to that remote and inaccessible Vermont town which he may choose as his dwelling place. Unless this be done it will be a very bored and tired admiral who finally makes his way to the village of his birth.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

David Bennett Hill isn't saying much, but what he does say commands a good deal of respect.

"Do you enjoy fighting Tammany?" somebody asked Governor Roosevelt the other day. "I was always fond of hunting big game," he replied.

A secret society has been formed in Oklahoma to exterminate the trusts. It is a society of the royal house and of members chosen by the king from certain specified classes. These classes are bishops, high officials of the military and civil service, men who have had at least six years' service in the chambers of deputies, and a certain minimum annual tax of about \$600 and men who are distinguished for unusual scientific attainment or exceptional service to the state. The Senate is permitted to judge whether a person nominated by the king properly belongs to one of the specified classes, and thus it controls its own membership. It is a large body, at present consisting of 372 members. The appointment of members is for life. The popular body, the Chamber of Deputies, is elected by a district system. Education, service to the state or property holding are made the tests of fitness for the franchise. With the exception of the classes enumerated hereafter all those who apply for the voting privilege are required to pass an examination in the history of the United States, the principles of the constitution and the elementary subjects covered by the compulsory education course. However, those who can show a medal received for military or civil service or who pay a direct tax of at least \$4 annually or own a certain specified amount are exempt from examination. In Italy, where illiteracy is very prevalent, the educational qualification excludes from the franchise a large percentage of the population. The present number of the deputies is 698.

It appears that the most costly Parliament of Europe is that of France. The Senate and Chamber of Deputies eat up annually 7,500,000 francs. The same item for the other chief European nations is as follows: Spain, 2,230,000 francs; Italy, 2,150,000 francs; Austria, 1,800,000 francs; Great Britain, 1,228,000 francs; Belgium, 900,000 francs; Portugal, 592,000 francs; Germany, 475,000 francs. The traditional economy of the Germans in domestic affairs stands out strikingly here. The legislative bodies of poverty-stricken Spain and bankrupt Portugal both cost their citizens more than the Reichstag of Germany. The French people, France spends 2,875 francs a day on its lawmakers. The salary of a French deputy is 9,000 francs a year. The president, or speaker, receives 60,000 francs and a well-appointed official residence. There are 245 employees connected with the chamber, nearly one for every two deputies.

The renewed unrest among the tribesmen on the northwest frontier of India and the latest development of Russian railway policy in central Asia have given rise to much discussion in the Indian press and have been the subject of frequent consultations between the viceroy, Lord Curzon, and the frontier officers. Since the beginning of the year an unusual amount of lavine news has existed in the districts near the frontier, notably in Peshawar, the principal military station, and neighborhood. Attempts on the lives of British officers and soldiers have been frequent, in two instances successfully, the colonel of one of the regiments and a soldier having been shot dead. What the Russian government aims at now, according to the latest and most trustworthy information on the subject, is to establish direct communication between its European railway system at Orenburg, on the river Ural, and the Central Asian road at Tashkent. The distance is about 1,000 miles and the line, when completed, would be, next to the transsiberian railway, the most important strategically of the Russian railways in Asia. It will be seen on glancing at the map that, with the distance between Orenburg and Tashkent filled in, there would be an almost straight continuous line of communication between St. Petersburg and Tashkent. The political and military significance of this is at once apparent. As to what is going on in Afghanistan there is much uncertainty, and at the end of March news was received that great preparations were being made at Kabul for a journey the aim was about to make to Kohistan in the north, the object of which was unknown.

Strikers Go Back to Work.
NEW YORK, May 12.—The strike of 1,200 Italians at work in the Jerome park reservoir ended today, all but about 100 of the men going back to work. No concessions were made.

CANADA'S NEEDLESS ALARM.

Chicago Chronicle.
The renewed apprehension of the Canadian papers lest the United States should sneak over the border some night and attach the Dominion of Canada to its territory is probably unfounded, though entirely natural. It is difficult for even the most enthusiastic annexationists to adduce arguments for the annexation of Canada, a country which produces nothing save chiliblains, poor whiskey and perverted statesmanship of the Louis type. But while annexation would mean little to the United States it would mean a great deal to Canada, which would at once see its most important industry disappear. We refer, of course, to the smelting of Canadian copper and nickel across the line at Niagara Falls, Detroit and other convenient localities. For many years this occupation has produced the most gratifying and satisfactory financial results. The foundation of many a Canadian fortune has been laid upon a few boat loads of contraband Mongolians or a dozen cases of smuggled opium. Annexation would, of course, kill the industry by establishing United States custom houses at the present Canadian ports, and the thrifty canuck would have to go back to cutting timber or making bad whiskey again. Hence the natural dislike of the Canadian press. But it is un- sound, we repeat, Canada would be a worse investment even than the Philippines and for the present we are inclined to think that does sufficient.

"Our Lady of the Snows" Haunted by the Shade of Annexation.

Chicago Chronicle.
The renewed apprehension of the Canadian papers lest the United States should sneak over the border some night and attach the Dominion of Canada to its territory is probably unfounded, though entirely natural. It is difficult for even the most enthusiastic annexationists to adduce arguments for the annexation of Canada, a country which produces nothing save chiliblains, poor whiskey and perverted statesmanship of the Louis type. But while annexation would mean little to the United States it would mean a great deal to Canada, which would at once see its most important industry disappear. We refer, of course, to the smelting of Canadian copper and nickel across the line at Niagara Falls, Detroit and other convenient localities. For many years this occupation has produced the most gratifying and satisfactory financial results. The foundation of many a Canadian fortune has been laid upon a few boat loads of contraband Mongolians or a dozen cases of smuggled opium. Annexation would, of course, kill the industry by establishing United States custom houses at the present Canadian ports, and the thrifty canuck would have to go back to cutting timber or making bad whiskey again. Hence the natural dislike of the Canadian press. But it is unsound, we repeat, Canada would be a worse investment even than the Philippines and for the present we are inclined to think that does sufficient.

Strikers Go Back to Work.
NEW YORK, May 12.—The strike of 1,200 Italians at work in the Jerome park reservoir ended today, all but about 100 of the men going back to work. No concessions were made.

ROCKY BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

An Englishman, who has lived in Finland for twenty years, gives, in a letter recently published in England, an interesting account of the superior condition of the agricultural Finns, as compared with the Russian peasantry. Within the last century, he says, their country has undergone a complete transformation, in spite of the rigors of the climate. It appears that there are government agricultural advisers, called agronomes, whose services are available for every farmer at the small cost of entertaining one of them and his horse so long as he stays on the farm. This official, who must have passed through the government agricultural schools, advises the farmer as to the draining, manuring, etc., of his bogs and fields. Certificated dairy maids are also provided to teach him how to feed his cows rationally and to make butter, which is one of the chief articles of export. Education is at a high standard, in fact, and schools are plentiful and well supplied with high-class and well paid teachers. Nearly all peasants can read and write. They cannot be married by a priest without giving agronomes and must be able to read in order to be admitted to the holy communion. Honesty is one of the national characteristics, except among the population inhabiting the frontier districts bordering on Russia, where bad example has had its usual effect. The law is administered with remarkable impartiality, and bribery and corruption are almost unknown among government officials. The writer says that the Finns dislike and despise the Russians, whom they regard as their inferiors, and, nevertheless, have never wavered in their loyalty to the czar. He describes Finland as the one healthy limb attached to the colossal and diseased carcass of Russia.

It has been decided by the Russian government to reform the calendar and adopt the method of reckoning now in vogue throughout Christendom. The "old style" will be superseded by the new on June 1 next, and in order to bring themselves up to date, the Russians will have to skip twelve days out of the current month. Russia's tardiness in accepting the reformed calendar is more apparent than real; for considering her late entrance into the community of civilized nations she has been constrained by the error of the Julian calendar during a shorter period of her existence as a civilized power than was enlightened England. The reformation of the calendar was proposed by Pope Gregory in 1582, but Protestant Russia never adopted the new reckoning until 1753, and George Washington was born on February 11 according to the "old style," which was in vogue in the British colonies until nineteen years after the date of his birth.

The Italian Parliament is composed of two houses, the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. The Senate is aristocratic in theory. It represents rank, wealth and prizes of the royal house and of members chosen by the king from certain specified classes. These classes are bishops, high officials of the military and civil service, men who have had at least six years' service in the chambers of deputies, and a certain minimum annual tax of about \$600 and men who are distinguished for unusual scientific attainment or exceptional service to the state. The Senate is permitted to judge whether a person nominated by the king properly belongs to one of the specified classes, and thus it controls its own membership. It is a large body, at present consisting of 372 members. The appointment of members is for life. The popular body, the Chamber of Deputies, is elected by a district system. Education, service to the state or property holding are made the tests of fitness for the franchise. With the exception of the classes enumerated hereafter all those who apply for the voting privilege are required to pass an examination in the history of the United States, the principles of the constitution and the elementary subjects covered by the compulsory education course. However, those who can show a medal received for military or civil service or who pay a direct tax of at least \$4 annually or own a certain specified amount are exempt from examination. In Italy, where illiteracy is very prevalent, the educational qualification excludes from the franchise a large percentage of the population. The present number of the deputies is 698.

It appears that the most costly Parliament of Europe is that of France. The Senate and Chamber of Deputies eat up annually 7,500,000 francs. The same item for the other chief European nations is as follows: Spain, 2,230,000 francs; Italy, 2,150,000 francs; Austria, 1,800,000 francs; Great Britain, 1,228,000 francs; Belgium, 900,000 francs; Portugal, 592,000 francs; Germany, 475,000 francs. The traditional economy of the Germans in domestic affairs stands out strikingly here. The legislative bodies of poverty-stricken Spain and bankrupt Portugal both cost their citizens more than the Reichstag of Germany. The French people, France spends 2,875 francs a day on its lawmakers. The salary of a French deputy is 9,000 francs a year. The president, or speaker, receives 60,000 francs and a well-appointed official residence. There are 245 employees connected with the chamber, nearly one for every two deputies.

The renewed unrest among the tribesmen on the northwest frontier of India and the latest development of Russian railway policy in central Asia have given rise to much discussion in the Indian press and have been the subject of frequent consultations between the viceroy, Lord Curzon, and the frontier officers. Since the beginning of the year an unusual amount of lavine news has existed in the districts near the frontier, notably in Peshawar, the principal military station, and neighborhood. Attempts on the lives of British officers and soldiers have been frequent, in two instances successfully, the colonel of one of the regiments and a soldier having been shot dead. What the Russian government aims at now, according to the latest and most trustworthy information on the subject, is to establish direct communication between its European railway system at Orenburg, on the river Ural, and the Central Asian road at Tashkent. The distance is about 1,000 miles and the line, when completed, would be, next to the transsiberian railway, the most important strategically of the Russian railways in Asia. It will be seen on glancing at the map that, with the distance between Orenburg and Tashkent filled in, there would be an almost straight continuous line of communication between St. Petersburg and Tashkent. The political and military significance of this is at once apparent. As to what is going on in Afghanistan there is much uncertainty, and at the end of March news was received that great preparations were being made at Kabul for a journey the aim was about to make to Kohistan in the north, the object of which was unknown.

Strikers Go Back to Work.
NEW YORK, May 12.—The strike of 1,200 Italians at work in the Jerome park reservoir ended today, all but about 100 of the men going back to work. No concessions were made.